

B O R U M

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Portsmouth Genealogical Society

NEWSLETTER

BORUM

601 Court Street

Portsmouth, Virginia 23704

Volume 4

Page 1

July- August- Sept 1992

Issue 1

Letters from Mrs Walter W. Brewster in this issue of news letter. Below is copy of information in the Cedar Grove Plot Book on this family.

Old 220, Lot 128; Owner John Borum & brother;

John E. Borum April 27 1919 age 66

Charles Carlton Ricketts Sept 8 1939 age 34

James E. Ricketts Nov 14 1950 age 83

Elizabeth Ricketts Nov 26 1957 age 85

John T. Borum March 25 1918 age 80

Sarah F. Borum Jan 29 1906 age 69

Gracie V. Ricketts Dec 14 1903 age 1 year & 2 mo.

James E. Ricketts Dec 12 1897 age 7 yr. & 3 mo.

Body no name

Reserved one grave for John A. Ricketts grandson of John Borum.

Borum Oak Grove Cemetery Old Section

Borum Monument:

Anne B. Borum Sept 6 1923- July 10 1981

James T. Borum 1832-1907

His wife Susan C. Borum 1834-1914

Rebecca Borum 1811-1871

Sarah C. Borum 1843-1859

Our daughter Mary L. Borum 1858-1859

Edward Borum 1834-1858

James A. Borum Jr. born Feb 7 1922

died Sept 5 1984

Anne Bennett Borum was his wife above date 1923-1981

Note; James T. Borum president Y.M.C.A.,, nome 103 Middle St. 1894. He owned grocier store

Death Records from Portsmouth Court

Infant Thomas J. Borum 15 mo. died bra fever Dec 7, 1865, son of John T. & Sarah Borum.

Sept 10, 1858 Edward C. Borum died pneumonia, age 24, parents John & Rebecca Borum, Information brother James T. Borum, Occupation ship-carpenter, unmarried.

March 15 1865 Hannah Borum died Gospor age 22, pneumonia, parents John T. & Martha Borum, born Norfolk, Co.

Marriage Record Herald Paper, Jan 1, 1830; Married Portsmouth, Va. Wed. Dec 23 1829, by Rev. Woodson, Mr John Borum of Gloucester, County, Va. to Miss Rebecca Williams fourth Daughter of Wilson Williams, deceased.

Note;

John T. Borum born Mathews Co. Va. 1832 died Portsmouth, Va. 1907

First Borum 7 generations before came America from County Essex, England, gi land awarded by King 1626.

James Arthur Borum was Real estate invester & Wholesale was great-grand-father of ~~Susana~~ Borum Burton.

330 Braehead Drive
Fredericksburg, VA
22401
12 February 1989

Bettie Jo Matthews
3908 Turnpike Road
Portsmouth, VA 23701

Dear Mrs. Matthews,

While visiting a friend in Norfolk in late January, I happened to see a copy of your book: Heritage of Portsmouth, Virginia, Vol. I. This is of interest to me, as I am a native of Portsmouth and have some of my mother's family buried in the cemeteries there.

Naturally, I checked to see if the people I know about were included. They are, and I was pleased to see what you have done in this volume. I'm certain that most folks don't begin to realize just how much of a task that you and your sister have accomplished, in bringing this book to the public. I've been doing some genealogy for the past 8 yrs....and I appreciate so much what you are doing!!

If you still have a copy of the book to sell me, I'm enclosing a SASE for the details of price, postage, etc. I noted that the copyright was 1986, so if you are out-of-print by now, I'll understand.

Also, if I may help you make a correction for any further copies, it is possible for me to do so. On pg. 138, line 9 from the top; where you have read:

SARAH P. BULLAT , it should read SARAH F. BORUM

This is the tombstone of a great grandmother of mine. The year of her death was 1906. I am enclosing a copy of her death certificate for verification. The stone is very hard to read now!

SARAH F. BORUM was the mother of ELIZABETH RICKETTS, whom you have listed in line 4, on this same page. The "adult grave unmarked" is correct, but I can tell you that it is the resting place for SARAH F. BORUM's husband JOHN THOMAS BORUM, who died in ELIZABETH RICKETT's home in 1918.

Somewhere in Cedar Grove Cem., there also are the remains of the parents of John Thomas Borum. His father, JOHN S. BORUM, died in the Yellow Fever epidemic of 1855 and his mother MARTHA (MILLISON) BOUSH BORUM died in 1867. I have an affidavit for her death-from the Courthouse, but the Yellow Fever victims are only listed in a report from the Portsmouth Relief Committee's booklet. Some are also listed in the Death Book at Great Bridge, but not John S. Borum. Guess no one ever made an official report to the court.

(over)

-I have just recently had Ogg's Stone Works to install a new monument on the family plot over in Oak Grove Cemetery. If you are doing this cem. for publication, please let me know. I can give you the directions for the new stone. It names more of the people who are buried in the plot.

My mother died when I was 7 weeks old. I was reared by a step-mother who never wanted me to know about my mother's family. For some strange reason, my Dad let her have her way! When I was 12, I found the receipts for my mother's funeral charges, in 1920....so I knew what the situation was. The uncle, in MO, who kept me until I was 3 yrs. old, finally told me that I had no relatives left in Portsmouth. I believed him, unfortunately!

In 1960, my grandmother-Elizabeth (Gillespie) Borum Hodges died. I never knew she existed until the lawyer wrote me a letter, telling me that I was an heir of hers...this was several mos. after her death. From that day on, I determined that I would find out all about my maternal lineage....on my own. This I have done, back to 1622 in Gloucester Co. VA. It's fascinating.

If it hadn't been for people doing records over the years, the task would have been impossible. That's why I know how much value a book like yours will be!! Please keep up your good work!

Didn't mean for this to be so long....thanks for letting me "bend your eyes" a bit.

Sincerely,

Ethel W. Chewster

(Mrs. Walter W.)

Marriage Records of Borum found in Marriage Records of Norfolk, Co. by Mrs Wingo
 Dec 23 1829 John Borum and Rebecca Williams, whose gdn, James Williams is surety.
 March 13 1837 John S. Borum and Mrs Martha Boush (Bush)
 Nov. 28 1833 Thomas Borum and Mrs Eliza Wrenn, surety Benjamin T. Borum
 Sept. 9 1835 William Borum and Mrs Nancy Hosier. Sur. Arthur Emmerson
 Death old news paper Portsmouth; May 24 1843 William T. Borum died age 69, lived Gosport.
 April 18 1823 Mathias M. Bush and Patsy Millison, surety, William Williams (Patsy was
 nick name for Martha) (see marriage of Mrs Martha Boush or Bush above)

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA - CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

REGISTRATION AREA NUMBER 220		CERTIFICATE NUMBER LEDGER		STATE FILE NUMBER	
1. FULL NAME OF DECEASED (first) SARAH (middle) FRANCES (last) BORUM				2. SEX male ☐ female ☒	
3. DATE OF DEATH JANUARY 29, 1906		4. AGE OF DECEASED 69 years		5. COLOR OF RACE WHITE	
6. NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION OF DEATH RESIDENCE				7. COUNTY OF DEATH	
8. CITY OR TOWN OF DEATH PORTSMOUTH		9. STREET ADDRESS OR RT. NO. OF PLACE OF DEATH 416 NELSON STREET			
10. STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY OF DECEASED'S RESIDENCE VIRGINIA				11. COUNTY OF DECEASED'S RESIDENCE	
12. CITY OR TOWN OF RESIDENCE PORTSMOUTH		13. STREET ADDRESS OR RT. NO. OF RESIDENCE 416 NELSON STREET			
14. NAME OF FATHER OF DECEASED JAMES WOOD				15. MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER OF DECEASED KIZZIE WOOD?	
16. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY U.S.A.		17. MARRIED ☒ NEVER MARRIED ☐ WIDOWED ☐ DIVORCED ☐		18. IF MARRIED OR WIDOWED, NAME OF SPOUSE NOT SHOWN	
19. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		20. IF VETERAN, name war, or if peacetime only, so state		21. BIRTHPLACE (state or country) OF DECEASED PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA	
22. DATE OF BIRTH (mo) (day) (year) OF DECEASED 10/5/1836		23. USUAL OR LAST OCCUPATION HOMEMAKER			
24. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY		25. INFORMANT - OR SOURCE OF INFORMATION NOT SHOWN			
26. CAUSE OF DEATH (Enter only one cause per line for (A), (B), and (C). PART I: DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: IMMEDIATE CAUSE (A) CANCER OF THROAT AND MOUTH DUE TO (B) Conditions, if any, which gave rise to immediate cause (A), stating the underlying cause last DUE TO (C) PART II: OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO THE TERMINAL DISEASE CONDITION GIVEN IN PART I (A)					INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH 1 YEAR
26a. AUTOPSY? AUTHORIZED BY: ☐ YES ☐ NO					
26b. IF FEMALE, WAS THERE A PREGNANCY IN PAST 3 MONTHS? yes ☐ no ☐ unknown ☐		26c. IF EXTERNAL CAUSE, IT WAS PRIMARY ☐ or CONTRIBUTING ☐ TO CAUSE OF DEATH. NOTE: IF EXTERNAL CAUSE, HISTORY AND EXAMINE		26d. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED. (Enter nature of injury in part I or part II)	
26e. TIME OF INJURY (mo) (day) (year) A.M. ☐ P.M. ☐		26f. INJURY OCCURRED while ☐ not while ☐ at work ☐ at work ☐		26g. PLACE OF INJURY (home, farm, factory, street, office bldg., etc.) 26h. (city or town) (county) (state)	
26i. CERTIFY that I attended the deceased from _____ to _____ and that death occurred at _____ (AM) (PM) from the cause stated above (address - city and state) (date signed)					
ACTUAL SIGNATURE R. H. PARKER M. D.					
27. BURIAL ☒ REMOVAL ☐ CREMATION ☐		28. PLACE OF BURIAL, REMOVAL, ETC. CEDAR GROVE CEMETERY, PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA			
29. (signature of funeral director or person acting as such)		NAME OF FUNERAL HOME AND ADDRESS STURTEVANT & SPECHT			
30. (signature of registrar)		DATE RECORDED FILED: ?			

This is to certify that this is a true and correct reproduction of the original record filed with the PORTSMOUTHDepartment of Health, PORTSMOUTH, Virginia.Date issued NOV 9 1979

(SEAL)

DEPUTY

Registrar

330 Braehead Drive
 Fredericksburg, VA
 22401
 21 February 1989

Bettie Jo Matthews
 3908 Turnpike Road
 Portsmouth, VA 23701

Dear Bettie Jo,

We had to be in Richmond for the week-end, so didn't have time to get this in the mail before leaving Friday A.M. My husband was being installed as President of the VA Society Sons of the American Revolution. It was quite a nice affair...including a tea at the Governor's Mansion, with both the Baliles in attendance-tho' he was a bit late arriving, due to Gen. Assembly duties.

I'm enclosing check for a copy of your book PORTSMOUTH HERITAGE, the cemetery bk. which I've only had a quick look at, but expect to study it closely. I remember that you had included some nice genea. along w/some of the families. It must have taken you a good spell to prepare this for publication. Thank you for taking the interest in our loved ones who rest there in Portsmouth.

Your letter tells me that you must devote every spare moment to doing this activity. I really don't see how you can baby-sit and still accomplish so much. Your energy level must be exceptionally high and expect you're much younger than I...all of which helps!!

Am also sending along a poor polaroid pic. which Mr. Thompson, of Ogg Stone Works, sent me in Jan. I haven't gotten my roll of pics. developed yet...which I hope are better! This will show you the new stone which went up in late Dec. in Oak Grove Cem. where my BORUM relations are buried. The directions for this are:

Lot #177, Avenue "C", North one-half.

Since you've already done Oak Grove Cem., you may want to bring this plot up-to-date. Will give you the names below:

Front side:	CORNELIUS F. BORUM	ETHEL BORUM WOOD
	May 10, 1875	Nov. 1, 1899
	July 4, 1908	Dec. 24 1920

(This is my maternal grandfather)

(This is my mother)

Back side:	MARGARET O. GILLESPIE 1857 Jan. 12, 1918	JOHN OWEN 1837 Apr. 25, 1900	DAVID GILLESPIE Aug. 12, 1855 Aug. 15, 1932
	(My maternal great grand- mother)	(My gr. gr. grandfather)	(My maternal great grandfather)

John Owen & his son-in law, David Gillespie, were steel platers in Sunderland, England. They had their passage paid to the United States ca. 1883, by U.S. Steel Co. ...to work in the factories over here.

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My grandmother, Elizabeth (Gillespie) Borum Hodges was b. 1876 in Sunderland, Eng. She was ca. 8 yrs. old when she came to America. She marr. 1st. CORNELIUS FRANCIS BORUM, son of John Thomas Borum & wife, Sarah Frances (Wood) Guy Borum....who are in Cedar Grove Cem. w/the Ricketts....as per your bk.

Cornelius Borum died in 1908, leaving Elizabeth with 3 young ch:

Ethel May Borum, who marr. my Dad, James Webster Wood, of MO. on 18 Nov. 1918. He was stationed at Ports. Naval Hosp. after W.W.I & she lived on 6th St. in Gosport. I was born 7 wks. before Ethel died. (of T.B.)

Alice Borum

John David Borum

(I have data on these, also)

Grandmother's 2nd. husband, John W. Hodges, marr. her in 1910 & they had 2 daus:

Amelia Hodges & Margaret Hodges

Grandmother is buried in another part of Oak Grove Cem. along w/her son, John David Borum and members of her last family. As I told you in my last note, I never knew my mother's family until after ~~her~~ my Grandmother died in 1960...then I met with Margaret (Hodges) Kiel and she told me some of the background of these folks. From there, I started my research. I can't get up the courage to tackle the ancestry of David Gillespie, whose father Michael Gillespie, was born in Scotland, as well as David himself. Think there might be millions of GILLESPIES to wade thru....and I might not live long enough to find the right ones!!!

The BORUM family had its American origin in Gloucester Co. VA. and they had land grants in the part that became Mathews Co....near Horn Harbor, as early as 1653. The Borums that ended up in Portsmouth all descend from JOHN BORUM, thru' several EDMUNDS and a WILLIAM. There were 2 John S. Borum men living in Norfolk Co. in the 1830's. One line intermarr. w/ the BILISOLYS later on. There is a BORUM home on Middle Street, ca. 1867, which still has a descendant living there. She is my 5th. cousin.

My John S. Borum marr. Martha (Millison) Boush/Bush. in Norf. Co. in 1837. The MILLISONS were in Elizabeth River Parish in 1665, when JAMES MILICENT (sometime later the deeds read Millison) rec'd. 400 A. north of Lamberts Point, on the Elizabeth River adj. "Daniel Tanners Creek"...which is now the Lafayette River. I grew up in Norfolk in Larchmont section...which had to have been part of this original land grant...of course I didn't know all this then!!

Fortunately, James Milicent did NOT come over here w/several bros. This has made tracing this line fairly simple...as there are deeds & wills on record-close enough together to give proof positive of the lineage. His wife, Ann Milicent-was named to be on a jury of women ca. 1676, to examine another woman for signs of being a witch. Think this is unique record & preceded Grace Sherwood who is known as "the witch of Pungo" in Princess Anne Co.

(over)

While I was in prison in 1943 & 1944, I was in the prison in 1943 & 1944.

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I didn't set out to give you all this history lesson, but you obviously enjoy the relationships....or you wouldn't be involved w/all the records that you're looking up.

One of the Portsmouth Death Books has a mistake in it that I was mighty tempted to change, when I discovered it. Someone has recorded a JOSEPH M. BOUSH as a black man. He definitely was not. I expect the mark was just put in the wrong column accidentally. His obit. was in the newspaper, and you know it was rare that a black person's made the early papers. He died 28 March 1886.

This man was the son of Martha (Millison) Boush Borum, by her 1st. husband MATHIAS M. BUSH....is how he signed his Marr. Bond in 1823. They bought land at the corner of Queen & Green Sts. in the late 1820's. Mathias Bush was dead before it was pd. for, ca.1831. The land reverted to the Trustees and later sold to a JENKINS.

They had 2 ch: Joseph M. and Martha Ann, who marr. Severn J. Tyler. Martha Ann, husb. Severn and one son died in the Yellow Fever of 1855, also her step-father, John S. Borum.

When Martha (Millison) Boush married John S. Borum in 1837, she was listed on the Bond as BOUSH rather than BUSH. Have not been able to pinpoint Mathias M. Bush's background, tho' there is a possible connection to PHILIP BUSH in Winchester, VA whose son, Jacob Bush died in Norfolk, ca. War of 1812. There was a militia group from Winchester that came down & fought at the Battle for Craney Island. Can't find any definite proof, tho' for Mathias.

Have searched Winchester Court records & found a will for Philip Bush....in a codicil dated 1812, he names a son MATHIAS and "leaves him a legacy in trust for his return home". Guess I'll never know more than this!! I'm not descended from him-it's just curiosity.

As I remember, the Death Book does not give the correct parentage for JOSEPH M. BOUSH, either. On the 1850 census, in the home of Severn & Martha Tyler....there is a 100 yr. old woman, listed as MARY HERD. I've figured that she is really a MILLISON relative of Martha Ann....and her name might have been HARE, rather than HERD.

Have not been able to locate an obit, or a death listing for this person. Surely, she couldn't have lasted much later than 1850... so therein lies the problem....no listings for that period. Norf. Co.'s Death Bk. begins w/1853.

In your searching, if you ever see something on her, I'd be much indebted to you for sharing. I believe the lady was MARY MILLISON who married THOMAS HARE, in 1788. When her father, JAMES " wrote his will in 1753, he named as one of his youngest ch. a MARY.

MARY MILLISON's bro. JOSHUA was the grandfather of Martha (Millison) Boush Borum. On the 1840 census, John "BOWRUM" had a female betw. 80 - 90 yrs. old in his home, and I'd bet my boots this is the same lady who was with Severn & Martha Ann in 1850.

As busy as you are, I know this is taking advantage of you, but it might "ring a bell" w/you at some point in time and I'd be happy to pay you for some searching-if ever you'd have the time!!

When it was snowing in Richmond on Sat., we heard you all had 10-12 in.. Fred'sb'g didn't get a drop-we'd had some on the 13th. of Feb. & gone the next day. Hope you're enjoying good health in spite of summer/winter quick changes!

E. H. B.